

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Insert the following paragraph after the title and before the first line of the specification.

This application is a Continuation of Application No. 09/787,932 filed March 21, 2001, which is the National Stage of PCT Application No. PCT/JP00/04926 which was filed on July 24, 2000, from which priority under 35 U.S.C. §120 is claimed. Both of these applications are incorporated herein by reference.

Should the Examiner have any questions regarding this Preliminary Amendment, please do not hesitate to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS, LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "S.D. Beyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Steve D Beyer
Reg. No. 31,234

P.O. Box 778
Berkeley, California 94704-0778
(650) 961-8300